

# **MONTANA STATE LIBRARY**

## **Assistance with Public Library Standards Compliance March 3, 2007 Update**

A public library standards compliance status checklist was distributed to public libraries in early February. The intent of the checklist is to help our library development consultants identify which libraries may require assistance to meet the standards. The checklist was due back to the State Library by Friday, March 2, 2007. Library Development staff are compiling the responses and will be maintaining contact with their respective libraries throughout the compliance process. Some important points to remember:

- Don't panic, the state library is sensitive to the additional burden the expanded list of essential standards may place on some libraries. We will try to be flexible and intend to work closely with you and your board to help your library meet the standards.
- As necessary and appropriate, temporary universal deferrals and individual library deferrals will be granted.
- The State Library consultants will be working with you and your board to help your library meet the standards and/or to file the appropriate deferrals when the time comes.
- We already are aware of the need for follow-up guidelines, templates, examples, and support work in the following three areas: Disaster plans, collection management policies, and annual user surveys.
- Coming soon to the State Library website will be a number of materials designed to help libraries work on these specific standards areas. Disaster plan guidance using the online dPlan tool, updated collection management policy guidelines, and sample patron surveys and survey guidelines will be available soon.

### **Questions or need assistance please contact:**

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